

**ADVISORY BOARD ON OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
Minutes
February 3, 2009**

The Advisory Board on Occupational Therapy met on February 3, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeffrey Loveland, O.T., OTD, Chair
Jean A. Hearst, O.T., Vice-Chair
Eleanor Levi

MEMBERS ABSENT: Eugenio Monasterio, MD
Aurora Stelz, OT

STAFF PRESENT: William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director
Ola Powers, Deputy Executive Director
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Regulatory Analyst
Tamara Farmer, Licensing Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT: Gerald Milsky, VOTA

CALL TO ORDER

Jeffrey Loveland called the meeting to order.

Let it be noted for the record that Dr. Loveland announced the Emergency Evacuation Instructions prior to the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 18, 2008

Jean Hearst moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Jean Hearst moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

#1. Legislative Report

Ms. Yeatts reviewed and explained the Report of the 2009 General Assembly as of 2/2/2009.

#2. Classroom hours combined with clinical care hours

Jeffrey Loveland addressed the advisory on a possible scheme that would combine classroom hours with clinical care hours to meet the active practice requirement for those individuals trying to reinstate. Ms. Yeatts informed that a regulation change would be required. Ms. Yeatts suggested that the Board members consider all possible alternatives to the current requirement for active practice hours and plan to make a recommendation at the Advisory Board meeting in June.

#3. Proposed Regulations for COTAs

Elaine Yeatts explained the process for the replacement of Emergency Regulations by Final Regulations. Jean Hearst moved to recommend to the full Board in February that the Emergency Regulations be adopted as proposed Final Regulations. The motion was seconded and carried.

#4. Supervision of COTAs

The Advisory Board discussed the supervision of occupational therapy assistants as written in Emergency Regulations. It was agreed that no changes were needed.

#5. Report on the licensing of COTAs

Ola Powers reported that as of February 3, 2009, 122 occupational therapy assistants were licensed by the Board.

#6. Grace period for licensure of COTAs

Jean Hearst asked about a grace period for the licensure of Occupational Therapy Assistants. Ms. Yeatts explained that there is no specific grace period or deadline for licensure in law or regulation. The Board agreed that all occupational therapy assistants working or wishing to work in the Commonwealth should apply as soon as possible.

#7. Election of Officers

Eleanor Levi moved to re-elect the present slate of officers. The motion was seconded and carried. Jeffrey Loveland will remain as Chair and Jean Hearst as Vice-Chair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Advisory Board welcomed new member, Eleanor Levi to the Occupational Therapy Advisory Board.

NEXT MEETING DATE

June 2, 2009

ADJOURNMENT

Eleanor Levi moved to adjourn the meeting of the Advisory Board. The motion was seconded and carried.

Jeffrey Loveland, O.T., OTD, Chair

William L. Harp, M.D.
Executive Director

Tamara Farmer, Licensing Specialist